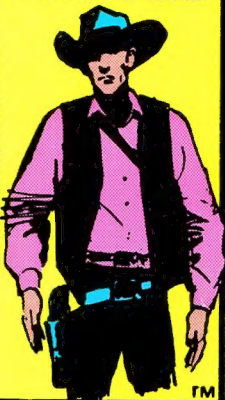


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20
OCT

THE NEW MUTANTS™



BADLANDS



Stan Lee
PRESENTS:

THE NEW MUTANTS

HOURS AGO, DANIELLE MOONSTAR WALKED ALONE INTO THE SNOW-SWEPT NIGHT TO FACE THE DEMON BEAR THAT HAD SLAIN HER PARENTS WHEN SHE WAS A CHILD.

HER FRIENDS AND TEAMMATES-- THE NEW MUTANTS (FELLOW STUDENTS AT CHARLES XAVIER'S SCHOOL FOR GIFTED YOUNGSTERS)-- FOUND HER BROKEN BODY.

IT WAS A MIRACLE THE YOUNG CHEYENNE SURVIVED TO REACH THE LOCAL HOSPITAL. THE DOCTORS' PROGNOSIS, AS THEY RUSHED HER INTO SURGERY, WASN'T HOPEFUL.

BUT THE BEAR WASN'T DONE WITH DANI. IT CAME FOR HER AGAIN--

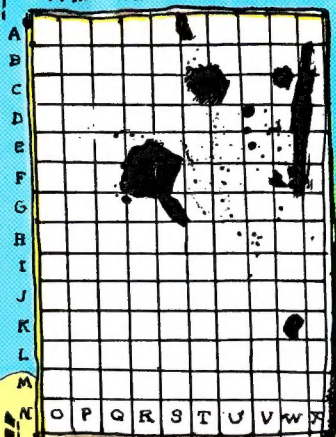
--ONLY TO FIND THE NEW MUTANTS READY TO GIVE THEIR LIVES IN HER DEFENSE. WHILE THE DOCTORS REMAINED OBLIVIOUS TO THE BATTLE RAGING THROUGHOUT THE BUILDING, DANI'S FRIENDS, THOUGH HARD-PRESSED, PROVED THEMSELVES A MATCH FOR THEIR MYSTIC FOE...

...UNTIL, WITHOUT WARNING, THE BEAR ENVELOPED THEM ALL IN A SPELL WHICH TRANSPORTED THEM ALL FROM EARTH...

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- DARKNESS DESCENDS -

- A view from 20,000 feet -



scale - 1 square = 1/2 mile

Black areas represent areas of land consumed by Demon-Bear's shadow

- A CHRONICLE OF THE NEW MUTANTS

brought to you by -

STAN LEE -

and

CHRIS CLAREMONT
the writer
BILL SIKKIEWICZ
the artist
TOM ORZECOWSKI
the letterer
GLYNIS WEIN
the colorist
ANN NOCENTI
the editor
JIM SHOOTER
the editor
who is much
taller, and
coincidentally,
CHIEF

... TO THE BEAR'S OWN DOMAIN...

... A VIRGIN AMERICA, UNTOUCHED BY THE WHITE INVADERS FROM ACROSS THE SEA. A PURE, UNSPOILED LAND-- RICH WITH POWER.

THE BEAR IS PART OF THE NATURAL SCHEME OF THINGS HERE-- YET AT THE SAME TIME, APART FROM IT, AN ABOMINATION. A SYMBOL OF STRENGTH AND ORDER TWISTED INTO A LOATHSOME TRAVESTY OF ITS TRUE SELF. ITS VERY PRESENCE CORRUPTING THE EARTH LIKE A PLAGUE.



IN THAT GLOBE-- AH CAN SEE DANI!

IT'S A BRIDGE, SAM, BETWEEN THIS WORLD AND OUR OWN. SO FAR, THE MAGICKAL WARDS I PLACED AROUND THE OPERATING ROOM ARE KEEPING THE BEAR AT BAY, BUT I DON'T KNOW HOW LONG THEY'LL LAST!

THE CREATURE HAS OFFICER CORSI AND NURSE FRIEDLANDER AS ITS PRISONERS. ILLYANA-- IS THERE NOTHING YOU CAN DO?!

MY SORCEROUS POWERS ARE LIMITED BACK HOME, 'BERTO-- BUT THIS SEEMS TO BE A MOSTLY MAGICKAL REALM. I'LL TRY MY BEST--!

NO, 'BERTO-- THAT'S NA' RIGHT!

HOW DARE WE TRUST ILLYANA-- WHEN SHE'S AS MUCH A DEMON AS YON BEAR?!

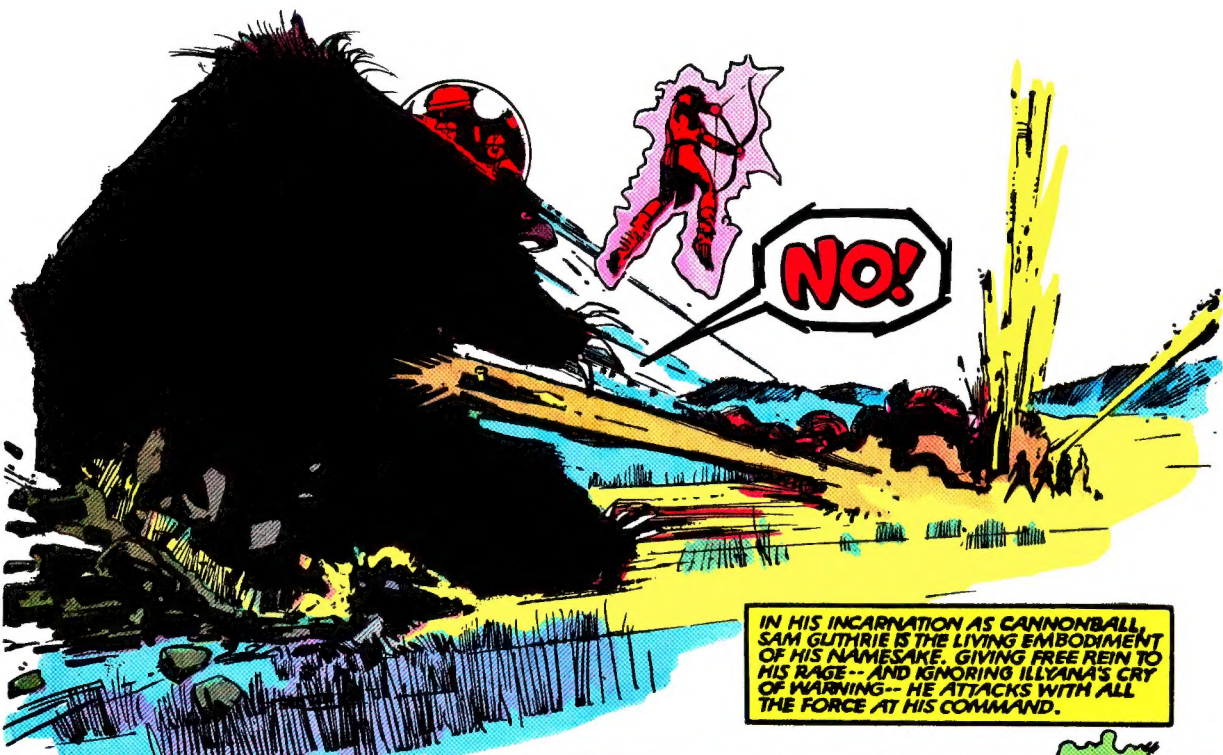
BADLANDS

BEFORE ILLYANA RASPUTIN
CAN EVEN BEGIN HER
ENCHANTMENTS, HOWEVER...

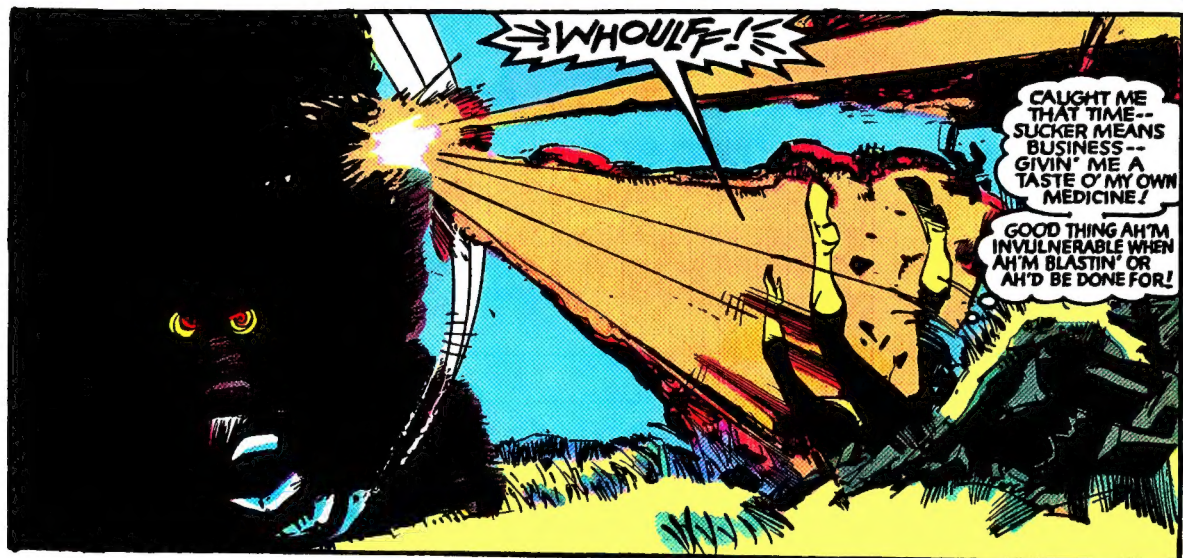
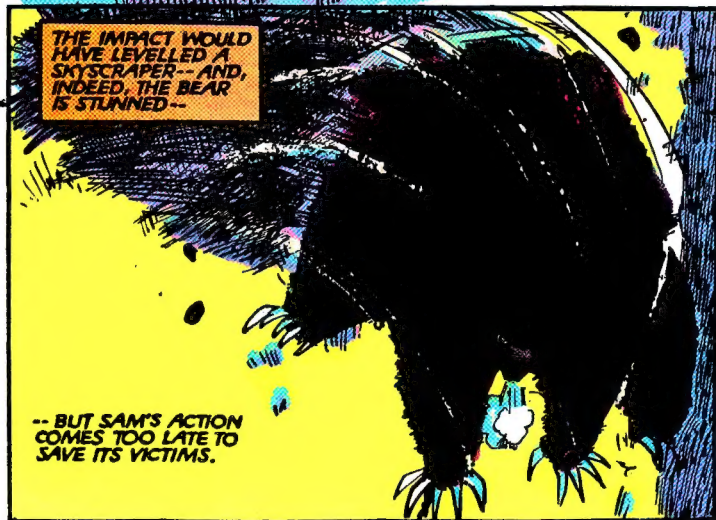
...THE MONSTROUS
AVATAR STRIKES...

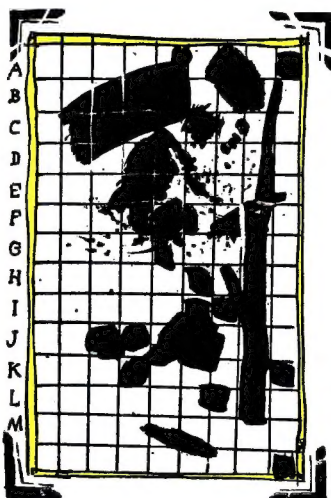
ITS CLAWS DOING NO
HARM TO THE BODIES OF
ITS HELPLESS CAPTIVES...

... ONLY
TO THEIR
SOULS.

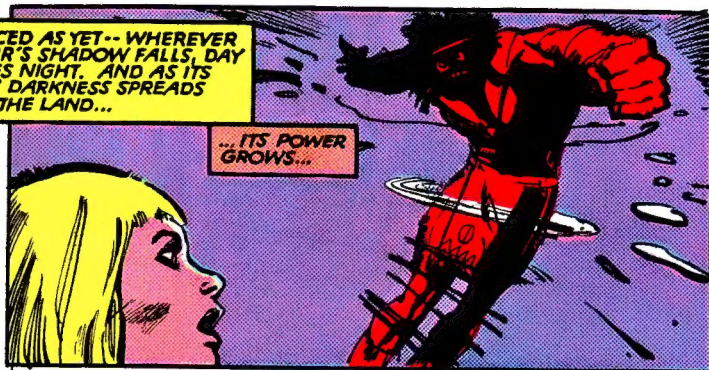


IN HIS INCARNATION AS CANNONBALL SAM GUTHRIE IS THE LIVING EMBODIMENT OF HIS NAMESAKE, GIVING FREE REIN TO HIS RAGE-- AND IGNORING ILLYANA'S CRY OF WARNING-- HE ATTACKS WITH ALL THE FORCE AT HIS COMMAND.





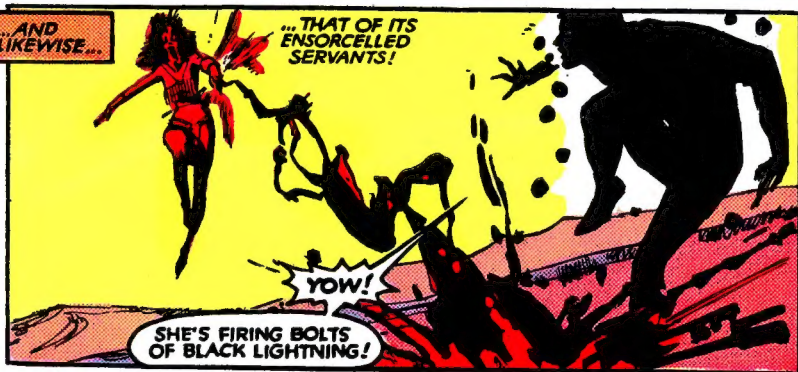
UNNOTICED AS YET-- WHEREVER THE BEAR'S SHADOW FALLS, DAY BECOMES NIGHT. AND AS ITS UNHOLY DARKNESS SPREADS ACROSS THE LAND...



... ITS POWER GROWS...

... AND LIKEWISE...

... THAT OF ITS ENSORCELLED SERVANTS!

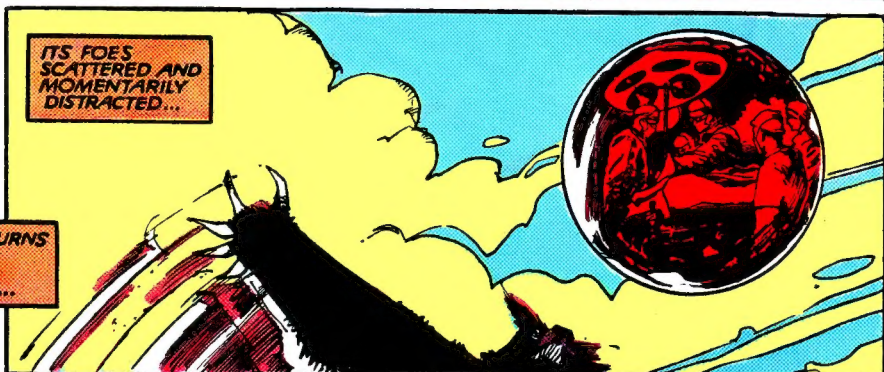


YOW!

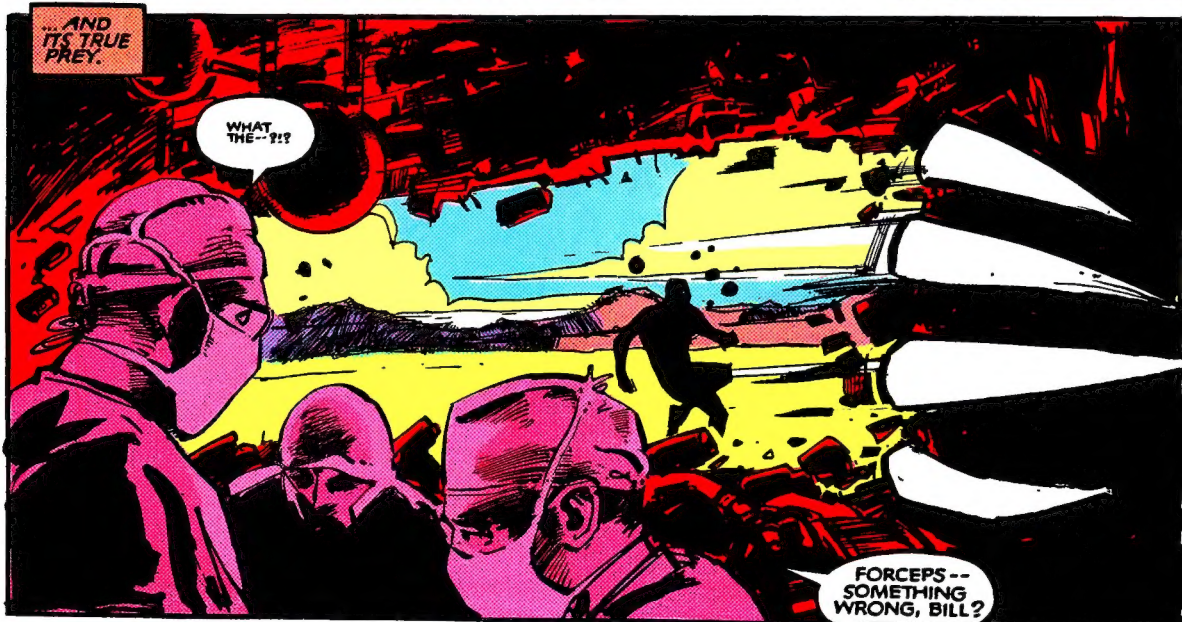
SHE'S FIRING BOLTS OF BLACK LIGHTNING!

ITS FOES SCATTERED AND MOMENTARILY DISTRACTED...

... THE BEAR RETURNS ITS ATTENTION TO ILLYANA'S ENERGY SPHERE...

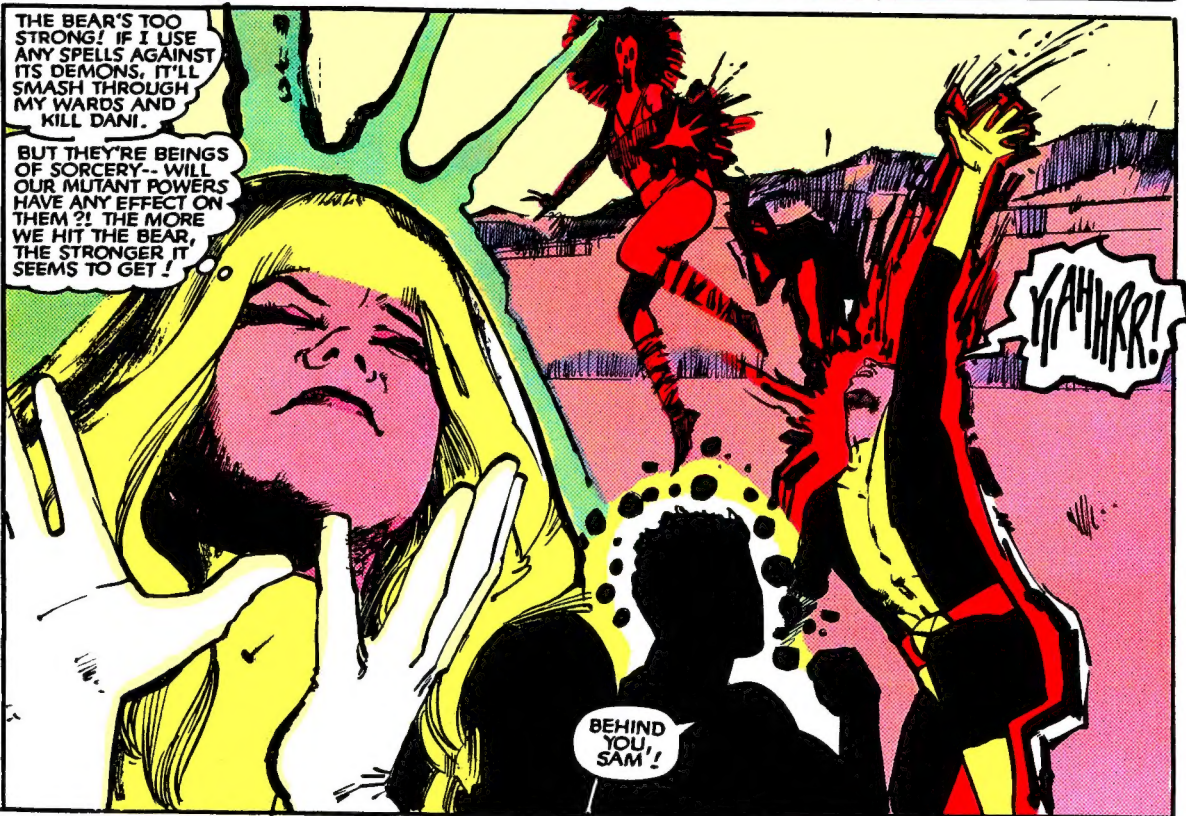


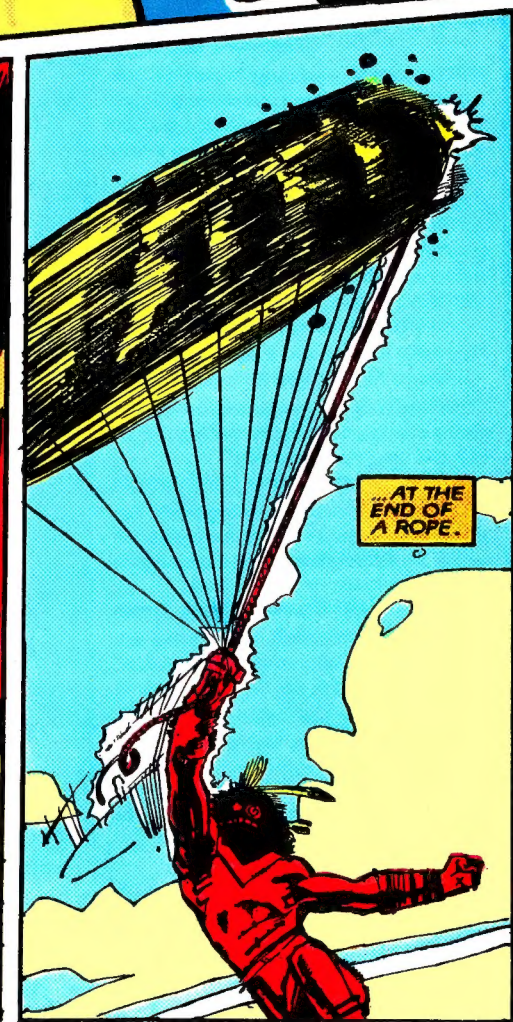
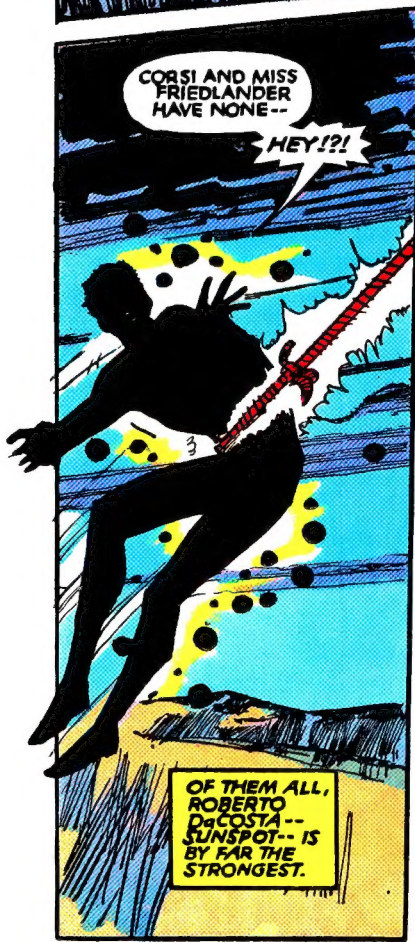
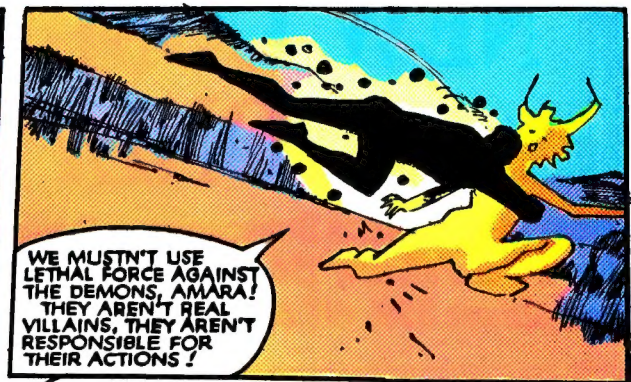
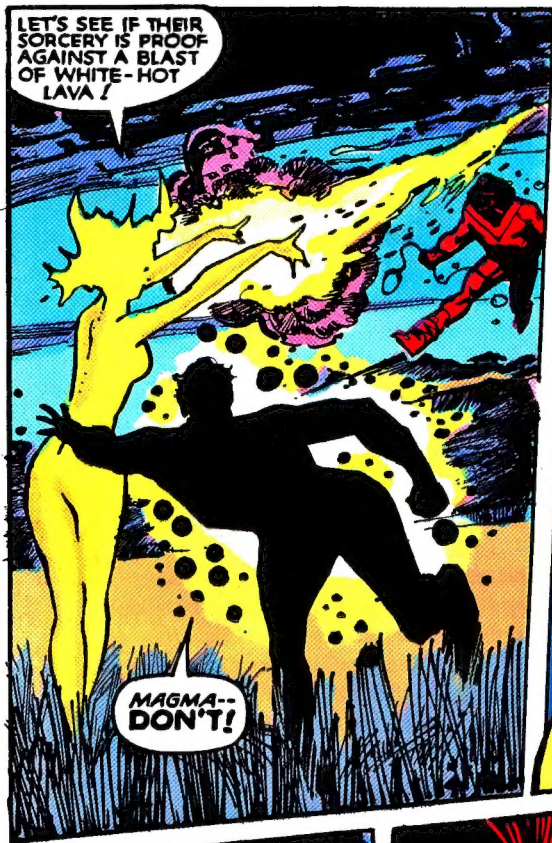
... AND ITS TRUE PREY.



WHAT THE--?!

FORCEPS-- SOMETHING WRONG, BILL?





WORSE...

... HE LACKS CANNONBALL'S INVULNERABILITY...

... AND ONLY MONTHS OF STRENUOUS CONDITIONING AND ACROBATIC TRAINING...

IMPOSSIBLY-- FOR JUST OUT OF REACH IS THE LIGHT AND WARMTH OF THE MID-DAY SUN-- HE SEES STARS ABOVE HIM.

I'D BETTER GET OUT OF HERE. MY STRENGTH DERIVES FROM THE SUN.

... SAVE HIM FROM SERIOUS-- MOST PROBABLY FATAL-- INJURY.

HE LANDS IN ONE OF THE BEAR'S SHADOW PATCHES, AN AREA OF ABSOLUTE DARKNESS, AS COLD AS THE BITTEREST WINTER NIGHT.

IN TERROR.

IN AGONY.

CAN'T-- BREAK LOOSE!

REVERTING TO NORMAL--! SHE-DEMON... DRAINING MY POWERS-- MY LIFE!

BLESSED MADONNA, HAVE MERCY-- HELP ME!

WITHOUT ITS LIGHT TO REPLENISH--*

HE SCREAMS.

IN SURPRISE.

SALVATION COMES
IN THE FORM OF A
FEISTY, RUSSET-
HUED SCOTS WERE-
WOLF-- RAHNE
SINCLAIR.

SHE GOES
FOR THE
DEMON'S
THROAT...

... AND IS RELIEVED-- YET ALSO FURIOUS-- WHEN
HER PREY TWISTS AWAY BEFORE SHE CAN DRAW
BLOOD.

SHE FEELS
STRANGELY...
CHEATED.

A BOW APPEARS FROM NOWHERE-- THE DEMONS'
MYRIAD WEAPONS AND ABILITIES CONJURED BY
THEM AS AND WHEN NEEDED--

-- BUT BEFORE
AN ARROW CAN
BE LOOSED
INTO RAHNE'S
HEART...

SHIFT TO HUMAN
FORM, RAHNE!

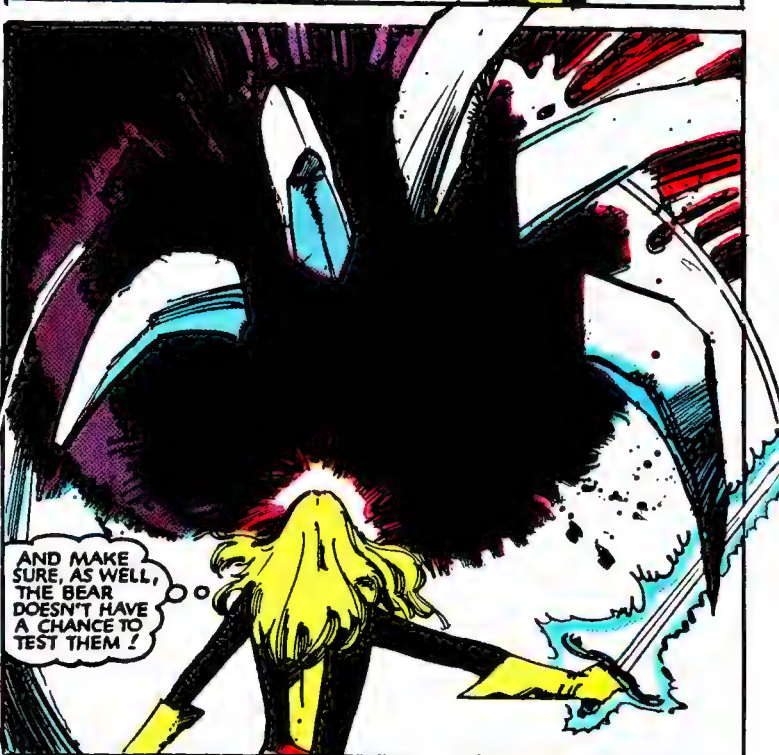
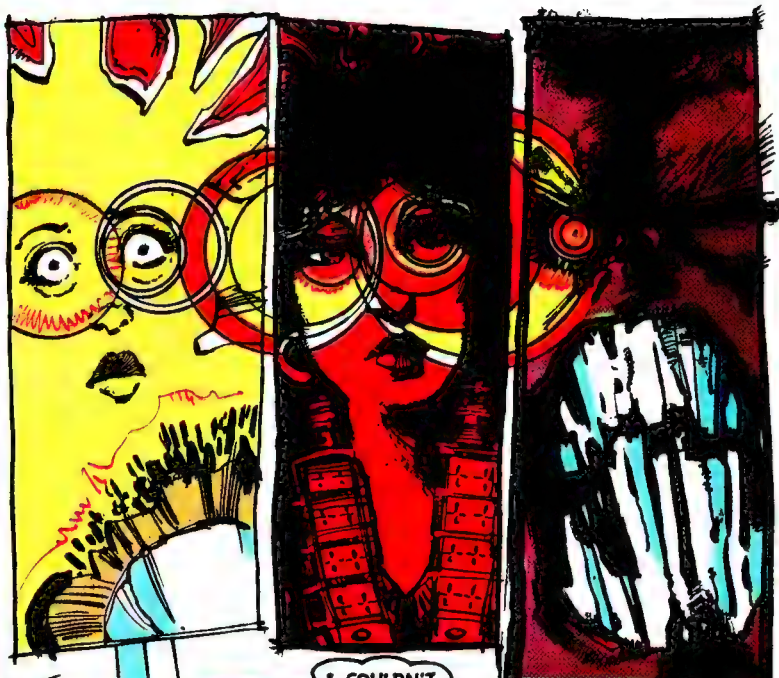
GET
ROBERTO
OUT OF
THESE
SHADOWS!

LEAVE THE
DEMON--
NNGNH!

AMARA
FORGETS
THERE
ARE TWO
OF THEM.

AND THAT
THE BEAR...

... HAS THE
POWER ...



THE ELDRITCH BLADE IS PUREST SILVER, SO BRIGHT HUMAN EYES CAN'T ENDURE TO LOOK AT IT. IT IS THE ULTIMATE EXPRESSION OF ILLYANA'S SORCEROUS POWER-- HER SOUL PERSONIFIED.

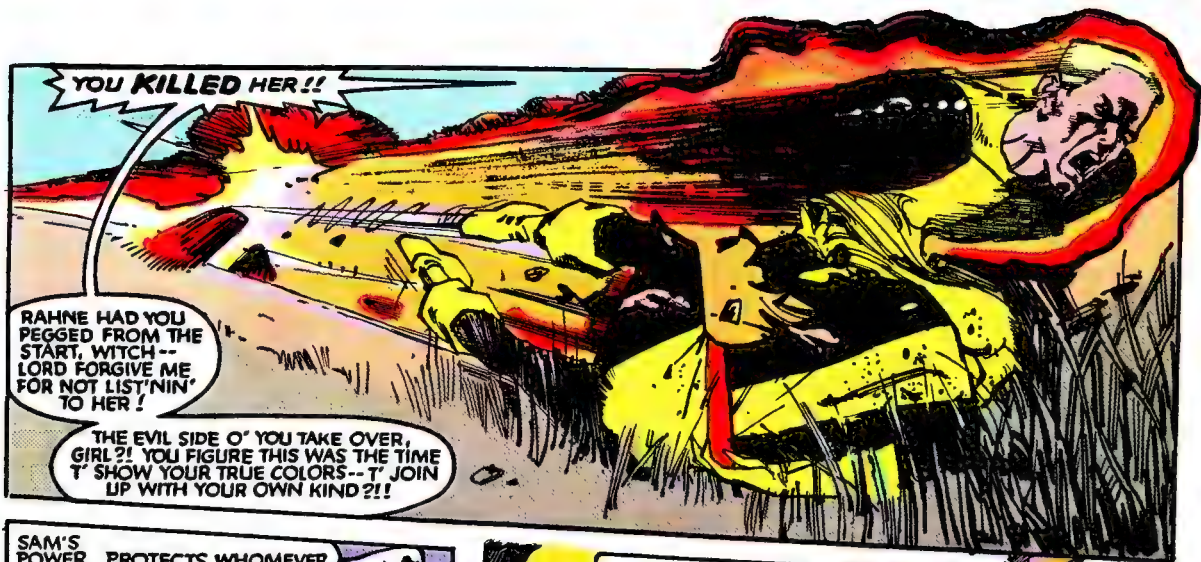
NO SPELL--
AND FEW MYSTIC
BEINGS-- CAN
ENDURE ITS
TOUCH.

I'VE CRIPPLED THE MONSTER--
BUT NOT FOR LONG! ALREADY,
I CAN SENSE IT DRAWING
ENERGY FROM THE WORLD
AROUND IT, THE PARTS IT'S
TAINTED, TO RESTORE ITSELF.

BY THEN,
THOUGH, MY
WORK WILL
BE DONE.

AND AMARA'S
SOUL WILL
BE FREE.

AMARA!!

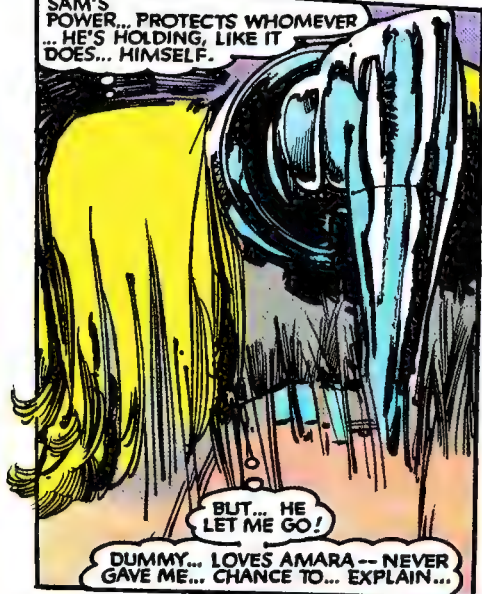


YOU KILLED HER!!

RAHNE HAD YOU
PEGGED FROM THE
START, WITCH--
LORD FORGIVE ME
FOR NOT LIST'NIN'
TO HER!

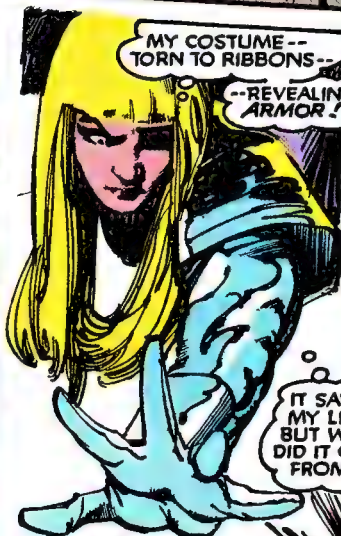
THE EVIL SIDE O' YOU TAKE OVER,
GIRL?! YOU FIGURE THIS WAS THE TIME
T' SHOW YOUR TRUE COLORS--T' JOIN
UP WITH YOUR OWN KIND?!!

SAM'S
POWER... PROTECTS WHOEVER
... HE'S HOLDING, LIKE IT
DOES... HIMSELF.



BUT... HE
LET ME GO!

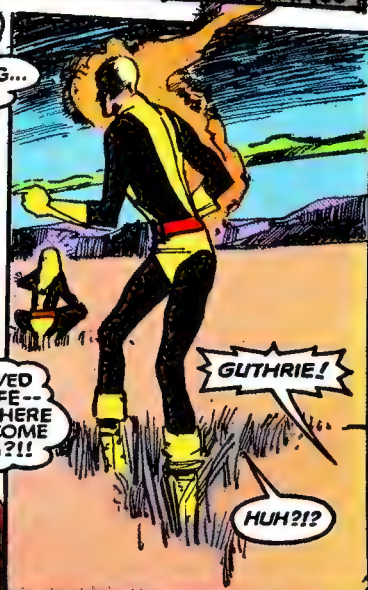
DUMMY... LOVES AMARA -- NEVER
GAVE ME... CHANCE TO... EXPLAIN...



MY COSTUME --
TORN TO RIBBONS --

--REVEALING...
ARMOR!

IT SAVED
MY LIFE --
BUT WHERE
DID IT COME
FROM?!!



GUTHRIE!

HUH?!?



BARBARIAN
FOOL, WHAT
HAVE YOU
DONE?!

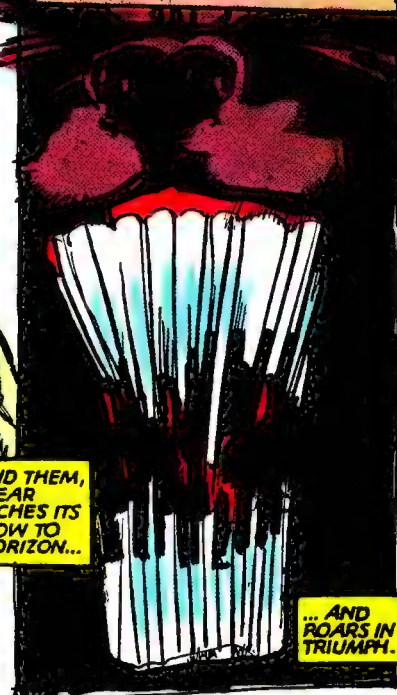
AMARA --
BUT AH
SAW...

... ILLYANA
STAB YOU!

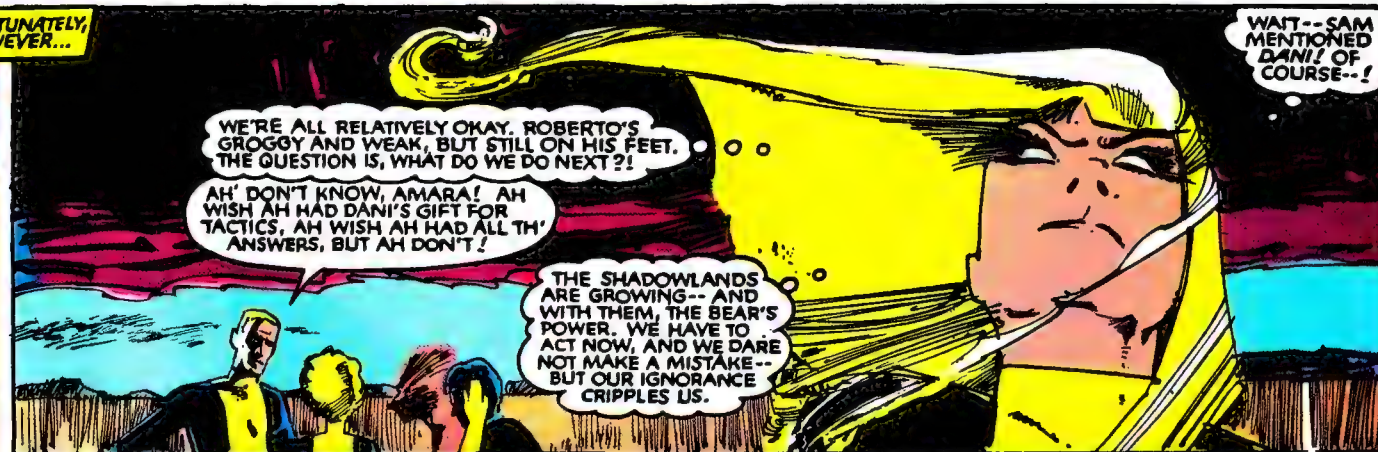
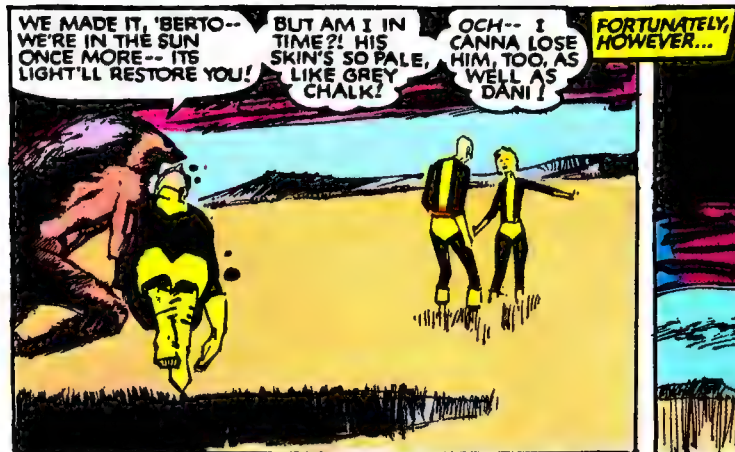
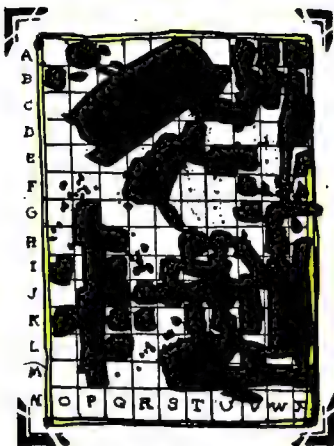


SHE WAS SAVING
ME, IDIOT! THE
BEAR WAS POSSESSING
ME -- ENSLAVING MY
SOUL -- UNTIL ILLYANA
USED HER SWORD TO
EXORCISE THE BEAST'S
EVIL! YOU'D HAVE SEEN
IT, SAM, HAD YOU
PAUSED -- AND THOUGHT --
BEFORE YOU ACTED!
INSTEAD, YOU DID THE
BEAR'S WORK FOR IT!

BEHIND THEM,
THE BEAR
STRETCHES ITS
SHADOW TO
THE HORIZON...



... AND
ROARS IN
TRIUMPH.



BUT EVEN AS
THE DECISION
IS MADE,
RAHNE'S PROBE
BEGIN...



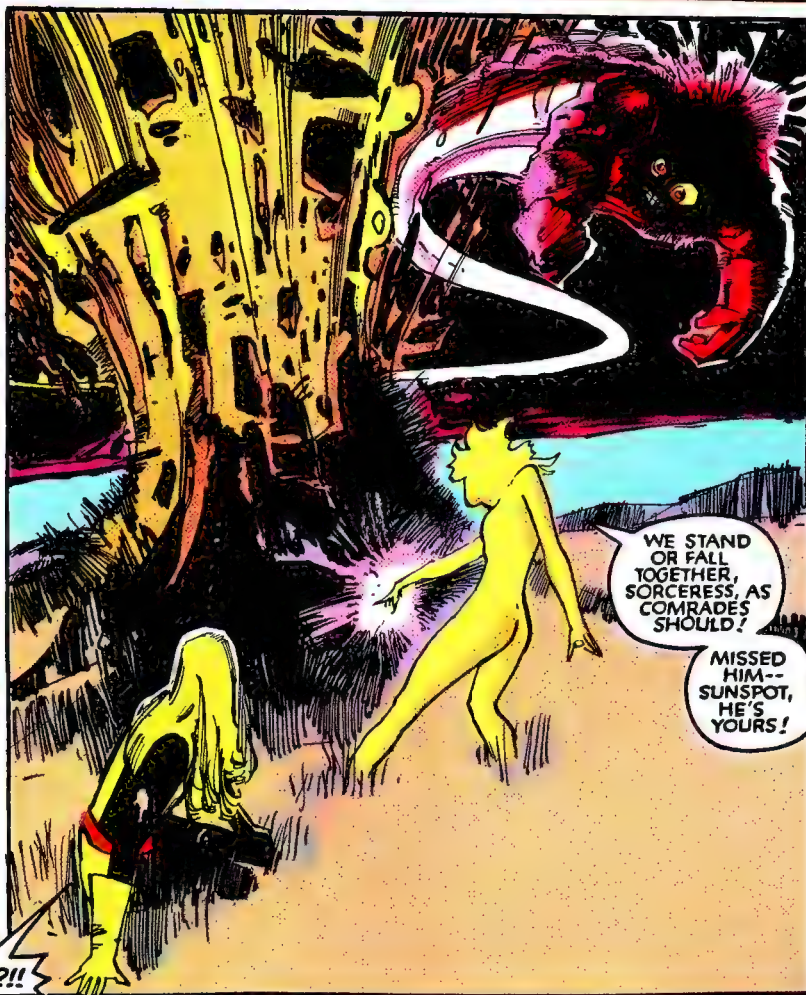
AAIIIEEEE!!

I HAVE... TO DEVOTE ALL
MY POWER TO MAIN-
TAINING... MY MAGICKAL
SHIELDS AROUND DANI--
NO RESOURCES LEFT... TO
PROTECT... MYSELF!

WHEN THE SPHERE
IS STRUCK, I FEEL
THE PAIN-- I'M HURT--
I BLEED!

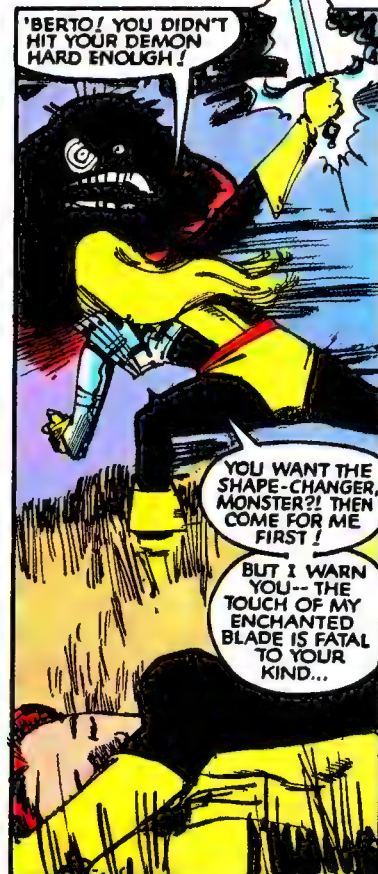
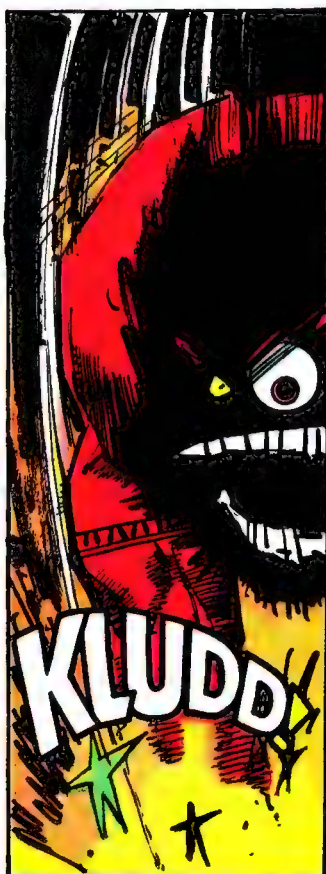
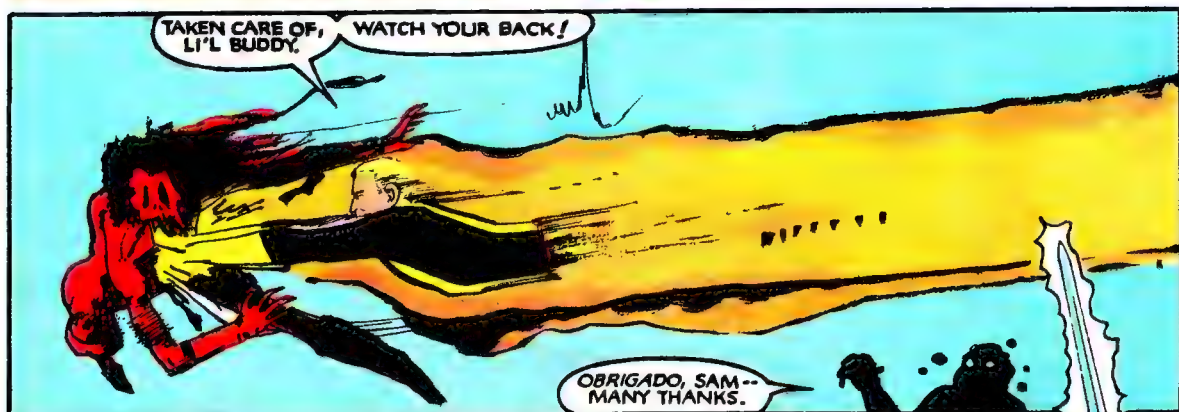
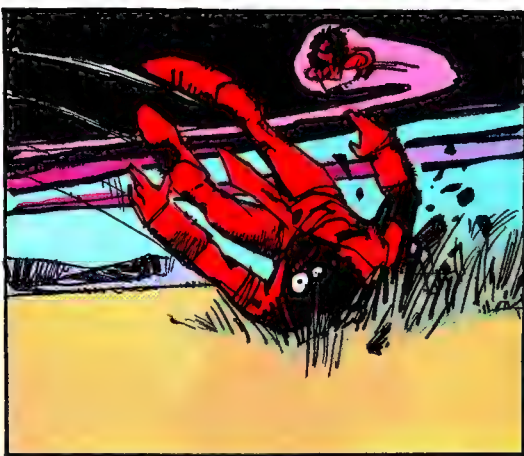
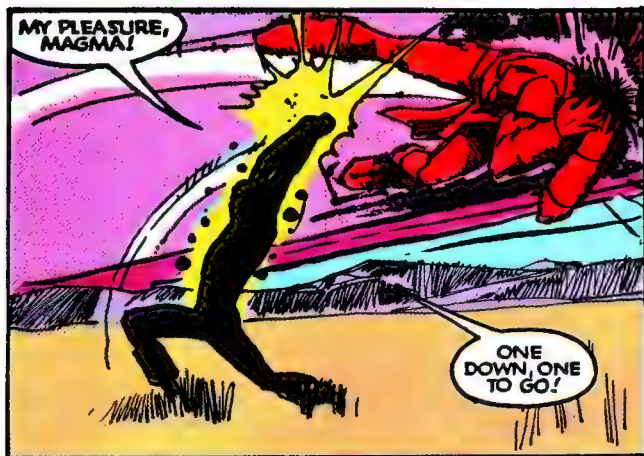


HERE COME...
ITS PET DEMONS...
TO FINISH ME OFF-- AMARA?!!

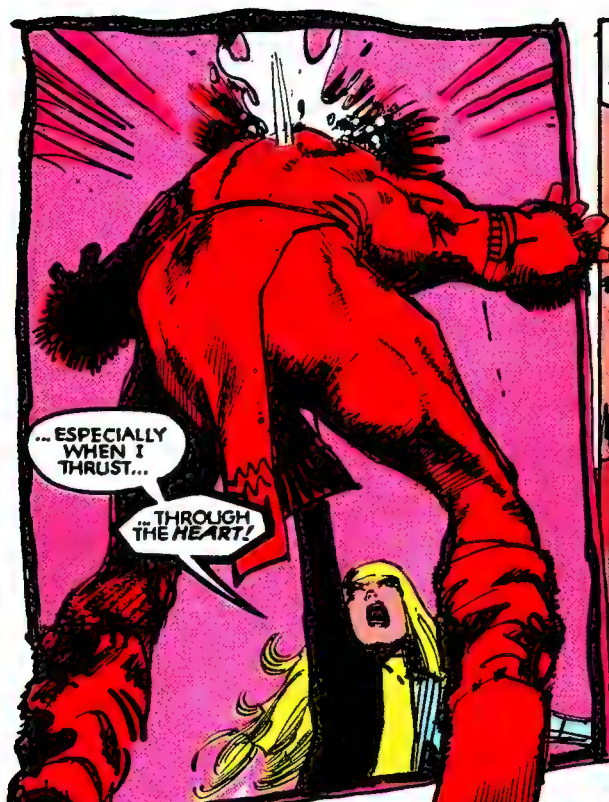


WE STAND
OR FALL
TOGETHER,
SORCERESS, AS
COMRADES
SHOULD!

MISSED
HIM--
SUNSPOT,
HE'S
YOURS!



BUT I WARN YOU-- THE TOUCH OF MY ENCHANTED BLADE IS FATAL TO YOUR KIND...



...ESPECIALLY
WHEN I
THRUST...

...THROUGH
THE HEART!



L-LOOK, ILLYANA! YOU
HEALED TH' INDIAN, AS
YOU DID AMARA! THA'S
THE KEY! YUIR SWORD!!

DANI'S WAS THE
KNOWLEDGE, OURS
TH' POWER! THE
MUTANTS--ACTIN' AS
A TEAM! IT MUST BE
CUT TO ITS HEART
AND SOUL!

I THINK I
UNDERSTAND.
REST, KIDDO.
YOUR JOB'S DONE
-- 'BERTO, STAY
BY HER!



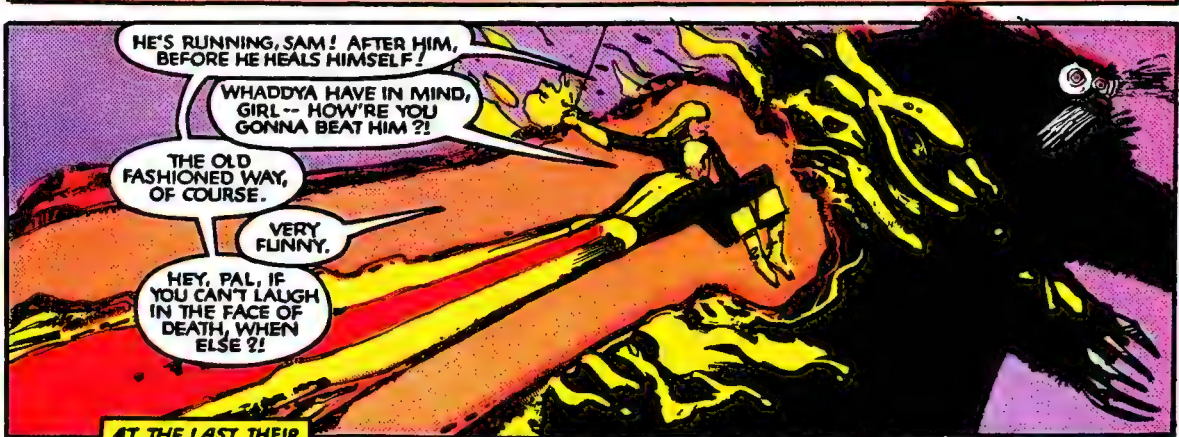
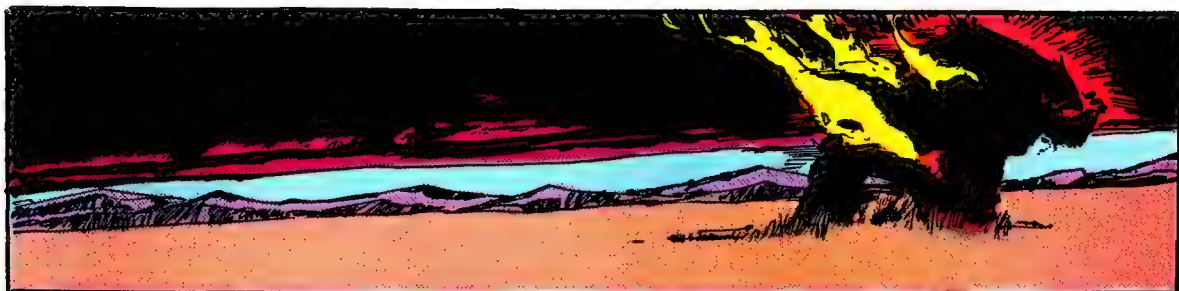
WE'LL NEED A
DIVERSION--?!

AMARA, THE DEMONS
FLINCHED FROM YOUR
LAVA BLASTS-- THEY
MUST BE VULNERABLE
TO FIRE!

LEAVE
IT TO ME,
ILLYANA.



AND, AT HER COMMAND, THE
GROUND BENEATH THE BEAR'S
FEET BECOMES MOLTEN MAGMA.



HE'S RUNNING, SAM! AFTER HIM,
BEFORE HE HEALS HIMSELF!

WHADDYA HAVE IN MIND,
GIRL -- HOW'RE YOU
GONNA BEAT HIM ?!

THE OLD
FASHIONED WAY,
OF COURSE.

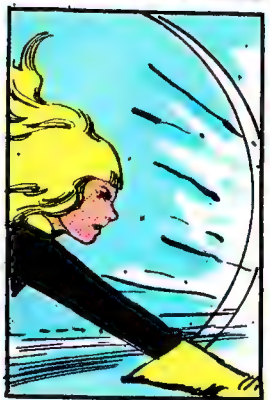
VERY
FUNNY.

HEY, PAL, IF
YOU CAN'T LAUGH
IN THE FACE OF
DEATH, WHEN
ELSE ?!

AT THE LAST, THEIR
EYES MEET-- HERS
AND THE BEAR'S--



--AND SHE
HESITATES.



THE BEAR DWARFS HER
TO THE POINT OF
INSIGNIFICANCE, ITS
DAEMONIC NATURE KIN
TO THE EVIL WITHIN HER
OWN SOUL. IT IS AS
ANCIENT AS THE PLANET--
A MALEFICENCE THAT
HAS EVER BEEN, SHALL
EVER BE...



... WHILE ILLYANA, FOR ALL HER
DREAD POWER, IS STILL VERY
MUCH A CHILD. WHAT HOPE
HAS SHE TO EVEN MATCH HER
FOE, MUCH LESS OVERCOME IT?

THEN, WITH A CRY TORN
FROM THE CORE OF HER
BEING-- SOULSWORD
RADIATING SO MUCH RAW
ENERGY IT TURNS NIGHT TO
DAY-- SHE SPLITS THE
MONSTER'S SKULL!



IT HOWLS!

AND THE WORLD SHRIEKS
IN SYMPATHETIC TORMENT,
BEFORE SEEMINGLY
SHREDDING APART-- AS
THE BEAR'S TAINT IS
SUMMARILY BANISHED.

IMAGES CASCADE PAST AND
THROUGH THE MUTANTS--
THE BEAR'S SHADOW
VANISHING FROM THE LAND
WHILE ITS SERVANTS REGAIN
THEIR LOST HUMANITY.

ITS SEVERED HALVES
COLLAPSE IN ON THEM-
SELVES, REVEALING THAT
THE BEAR, FOR ALL ITS
DARKSOME MAJESTY,
WAS NOT QUITE WHAT
IT FIRST SEEMED.

AND THEN...

Bulpen Bulletins

JIM STARLIN TRIED TO KILL ME!

In the very first issue of *Dreadstar*, a column I wrote was published, telling of a perilous trip by innertube down the rapids of the mighty Esopus river, conducted by Mr. James Starlin, during which I nearly lost my tube and might have drowned. Jim, I thought, kicked my tube back toward me at that critical moment, thereby saving me from a watery death, or at least embarrassment.

I was wrong.

The tube-kicking, it seems clear now, was an accident. Or, perhaps he meant to kick it away from me and simply through egregious, blundering incompetence mistakenly kicked it the "wrong" direction.

No matter. His true colors have, at last, been shown — and they bear, my friends, the well-known symbolic image of death . . . Mr. Yuck! Or something like that.

A month or so ago, Jim again lured me to his palatial country estate, this time for "a relaxing weekend of winter sport."

He took me snowmobiling. My first time.

Rocketing along mountain goat-trails completely out of control at sixty miles an hour — that, I didn't mind.

It was a little worrisome when Jim's co-conspirator, one Berni Wrightson, a highly skilled and experienced snowmobiler hurtled headlong off the trail and slaughtered a thicket of what one day would have been mighty oaks with his machine and his body.

What a mess.

Undaunted, trusting my "friend" Jim Starlin, I followed him onward, leaving Berni's corpse in the corpse (or so we thought — later, it turned out, he survived. The corpse was the only corpse).

Starlin led me at high speed to the very peak of Mt. Macho.

For a moment, we stopped, poised on the brink of a sheer cliff. Then, seeing a certain weird, evil gleam in his eyes, I said those three fatal, famous last words . . .

"You're not serious . . ."

Next thing I knew, I was plunging down a vertical cliff face, five hundred yards straight down, clinging to what might as well have been a large, hi-tech metal sculpture by Skidoo. I'm not going to say he *pushed* my machine over the precipice, because it all happened so fast — who can really be sure? But, I submit to you, that no sane individual would take that plunge un-pushed, or of his own free will.

Which is why Starlin followed me over of his own free will, shrieking his "death laugh" (patent pending) like the hysterical, crazed maniac he is.

Of course, he merely followed to cover up his deed — to make it look as though we'd both just gotten foolishly, suicidally careless. He, no doubt, was counting on that uncanny invulnerability which protects raving lunatics to save his life!

Ah, but fate cheated him. He survived all right, but somehow, as I plummeted, feeling all the while like Wile E. Coyote, I maintained control — and, as the cliff curved out into rocky meadow, I was still in the saddle, facing (as Stan Lee often commanded) front. I rode it out, and made it down the mountain.

The whole experience was worth it — because now I know. I know!

Jim Starlin is a killer.

Now, at last, I understand *Dreadstar*.



Vanth Dreadstar vs. the Lord High Papal — to the death, of course! But, you'll never guess the ultimate outcome! Nothing will ever be the same again after "Resolution" in issue #14 of *Dreadstar*, on sale in early July at your local comics specialty store. Just \$1.50.

By the way, watch for our full-color video presentation! It brings you up to date on all that has gone before in the entire *Metamorphosis Odyssey-Dreadstar* series! And it includes a shocking interview with Berni Wrightson in regards to his absolutely magnificent *Frankenstein* illustrated novel! It's probably being shown at your local comics shop now! If it's not, demand it!

HYPE BOX

MACHINE MAN (Limited Series)

#1 — You think you're grouchy after over-sleeping? Then check out Machine Man — he's been asleep for nearly 40 years, and is he fit to be tied! It's now the year 2020, but some things never change. Frinstance, Gears Garvin is still alive and kicking, and there's this second-generation super hero running around who looks awfully familiar! Who is he? Why did Machine Man sleep so long? And will he remember to set his alarm clock properly next time? For the answers to these and other vital questions of our day, be sure to read "He Lives Again," written by TOM DEFALCO, with lay-outs by HERB TRIMPE and finishes by BARRY WINDSOR-SMITH!

MICRONAUTS: THE NEW VOYAGES

#1 — Who are the Makers, anyway? That's what the Micronauts want to know. Suffice it to say, though, that when the Makers finally do reveal themselves . . . the Microverse will never be the same again! This is the book that was so popular in comics shops that we couldn't keep it a secret from the newsstands — so it's available there now, too! "Shadow of the Makers" is written by PETER B. GILLIS, penciled by KELLEY JONES, inked by BRUCE PATTERSON . . . and it's got a special, painted cover by original Micronauts artist MICHAEL GOLDEN!

DOCTOR WHO #1 — He's a slightly eccentric, jolly-bean, eating time-traveler — and now he's got his own monthly Marvel comic! He's Doctor Who, of course, and if you want to find out why his British TV show is the longest running in BBC history . . . read this comic! This issue features the beginning of the *Starbeast* story, written by MILLS & WAGNER and illustrated by DAVE GIBBONS; plus "Return of the Daleks," written by STEVE MOORE and illustrated by PAUL NEARY and DAVID LLOYD — plus an article on the history of Doctor Who illustrated by Thor artist WALT SIMONSON! And it's printed on Baxter paper, to boot!

CHECK LIST

- ☐ **THE THING #16**
- ☐ **DAREDEVIL #211**
- ☐ **NEW MUTANTS #20**
- ☐ **DAZZLER #34**
- ☐ **KA-ZAR #34** — What happens to a comic book character when his book is cancelled? Well, you can find out here . . . 'cause this is the last issue of Ka-Zar.
- ☐ **MARVEL SUPER HEROES SECRET WARS (Limited Series) #6**
- ☐ **WEST COAST AVENGERS (Limited Series) #2**
- ☐ **MACHINE MAN (Limited Series) #1** — Machine Man in the year 2020! See Hype Box.
- ☐ **THE MUPPETS #1, 2 & 3** — Featuring the Marvel adaptation of the new movie "The Muppets Take Manhattan," three-pack.
- ☐ **MARVEL TEAM-UP ANNUAL #7**
- ☐ **AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #257** — The secret of Spidey's new costume revealed!
- ☐ **CAPTAIN AMERICA #298**
- ☐ **THOR #348**
- ☐ **INDIANA JONES #22**
- ☐ **POWER PACK #3**
- ☐ **MICRONAUTS: THE NEW VOYAGES #1** — Now available on newsstands! See Hype Box.
- ☐ **DOCTOR STRANGE #67**

- ☐ **U.S. 1 (Limited Series) #12**
- ☐ **THE LAST STAR FIGHTER (Limited Series) #1, 2 & 3** — The world's greatest video game player is appointed savior of the universe! Really! Adapted from the new movie.
- ☐ **SUB-MARINER (Limited Series) #2**
- ☐ **IRON MAN ANNUAL #7**
- ☐ **AVENGERS #248**
- ☐ **CONAN THE BARBARIAN #163**
- ☐ **MARVEL TALES #168** — Never before reprinted . . . until now! "Never Step on A Scorpion," by Stan Lee and Steve Ditko, first presented in *Amazing Spider-Man* #29!
- ☐ **ROM #59**
- ☐ **POWER MAN/IRON FIST #110**
- ☐ **G.I. JOE #28**
- ☐ **KULL THE CONQUEROR #6** — Now bi-monthly!
- ☐ **TEMPLE OF DOOM (Limited Series) #2** — Marvel's official adaptation of the new Indiana Jones movie.
- ☐ **INCREDIBLE HULK #300** — Double-size spectacular!
- ☐ **X-MEN #186** — Illustrated by guest-artists Barry Windsor-Smith and Terry Austin!
- ☐ **FANTASTIC FOUR #271**
- ☐ **MARVEL TEAM-UP #146** — Featuring Spider-Man and Nomad.

- ☐ **IRON MAN #187**
- ☐ **PETER PARKER, THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN #95**
- ☐ **DEFENDERS #136**
- ☐ **STAR WARS #88**
- ☐ **ALPHA FLIGHT #15**
- ☐ **WHAT IF #47** — "What If Loki Had Found Thor's Hammer?"
- ☐ **DOCTOR WHO #1** — The star of the most popular TV show in Britain gets his own Marvel comic! See Hype Box.

MARVEL MAGAZINES

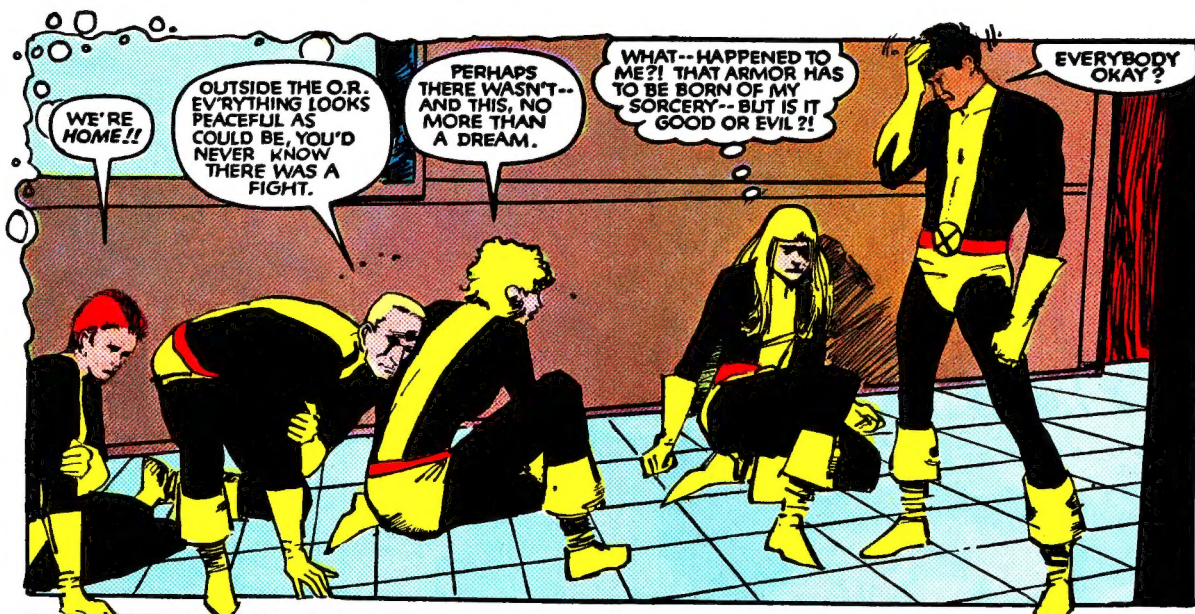
- ☐ **SAVAGE SWORD OF CONAN #104**
- ☐ **MARVEL AGE #19**

EPIC COMICS

- ☐ **ALIEN LEGION #3**
- ☐ **DREADSTAR #13**
- ☐ **SIX FROM SIRIUS #2**

ASSORTED GOODIES

- ☐ **SUPERSPECIAL #32: THE MUPPETS TAKE MANHATTAN** — The complete adaptation of the new Muppet movie!
- ☐ **GRAPHIC NOVEL #11: DAZZLER: THE MOVIE** — The Dazzler's mutant powers are revealed to the world! Written by JIM SHOOTER, penciled by FRANK SPRINGER and inked by VINCE COLLETTA!



WE'RE HOME!!

OUTSIDE THE O.R. EV'RYTHING LOOKS PEACEFUL AS COULD BE, YOU'D NEVER KNOW THERE WAS A FIGHT.

PERHAPS THERE WASN'T-- AND THIS, NO MORE THAN A DREAM.

WHAT-- HAPPENED TO ME?! THAT ARMOR HAS TO BE BORN OF MY SORCERY-- BUT IS IT GOOD OR EVIL?!

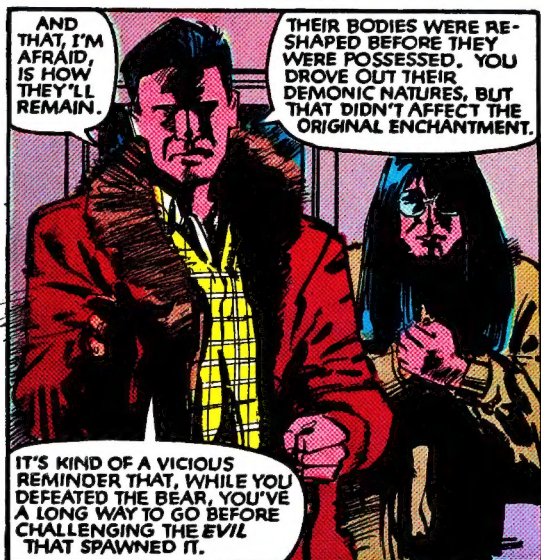
EVERYBODY OKAY?



SAM! OFFICER CORSI AND NURSE FRIEDLANDER-- THEY'RE HUMAN-- THEY AREN'T DEMONS ANY MORE--



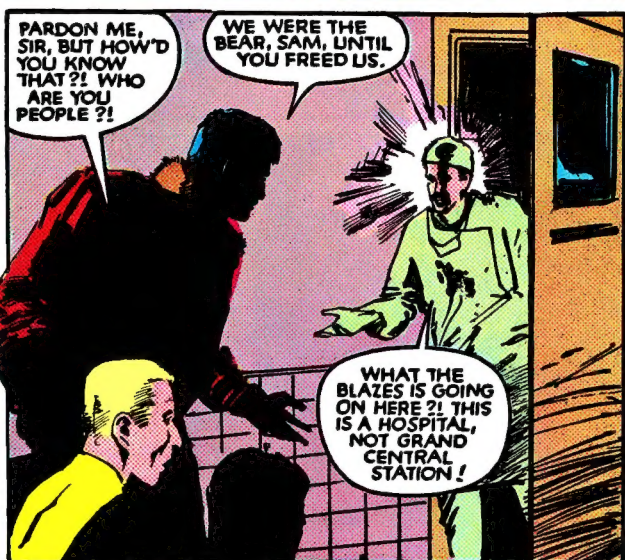
-- BUT THEY'VE NOT RETURNED TO THEIR TRUE SELVES! THEY'RE STILL RED INDIANS!



AND THAT, I'M AFRAID, IS HOW THEY'LL REMAIN.

THEIR BODIES WERE RE-SHAPED BEFORE THEY WERE POSSESSED. YOU DROVE OUT THEIR DEMONIC NATURES, BUT THAT DIDN'T AFFECT THE ORIGINAL ENCHANTMENT.

IT'S KIND OF A VICIOUS REMINDER THAT, WHILE YOU DEFEATED THE BEAR, YOU'VE A LONG WAY TO GO BEFORE CHALLENGING THE EVIL THAT SPAWNED IT.



PARDON ME, SIR, BUT HOW'D YOU KNOW THAT?! WHO ARE YOU PEOPLE?!

WE WERE THE BEAR, SAM, UNTIL YOU FREED US.

WHAT THE BLAZES IS GOING ON HERE?! THIS IS A HOSPITAL, NOT GRAND CENTRAL STATION!



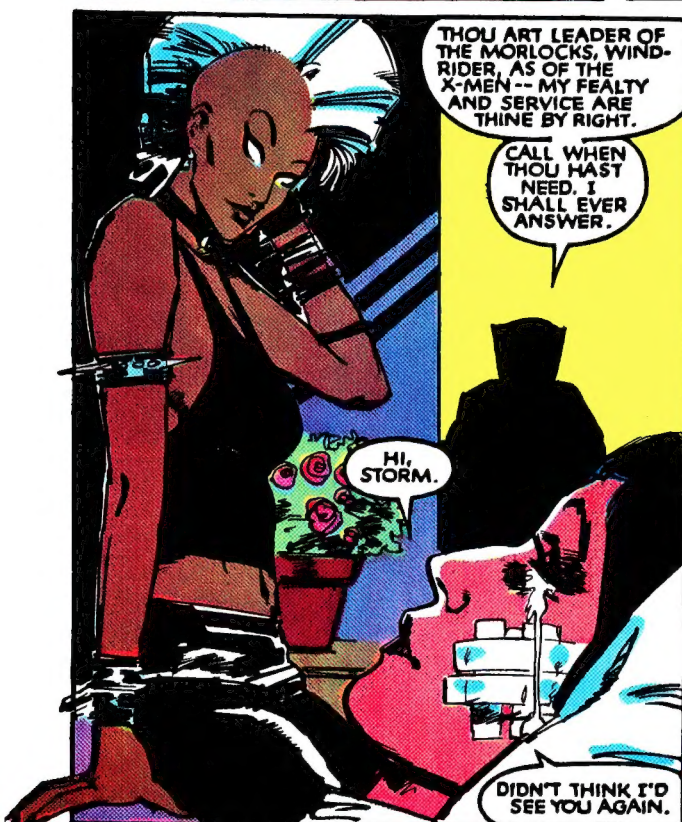
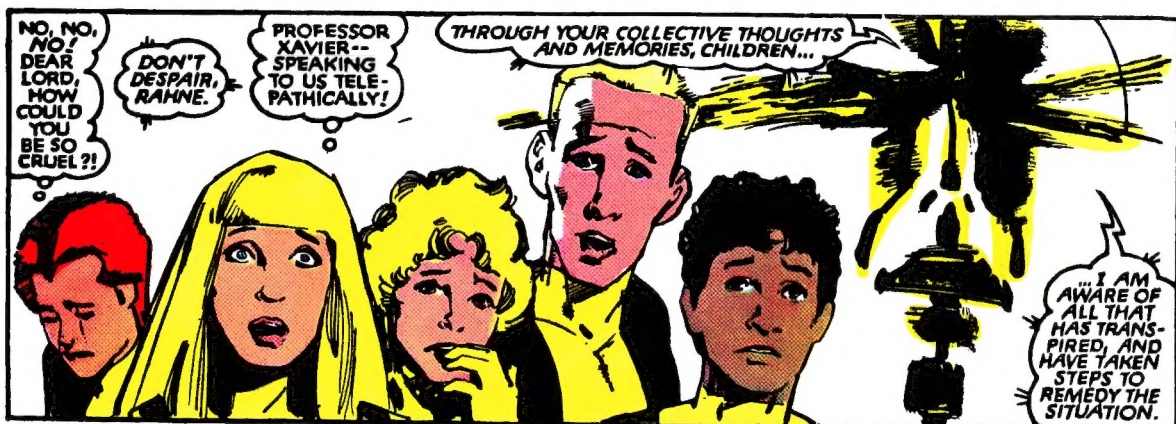
I'M WILLIAM LONESTAR, DOCTOR. THIS IS MY WIFE, PEG. OUR DAUGHTER, DANIELLE, IS YOUR PATIENT.

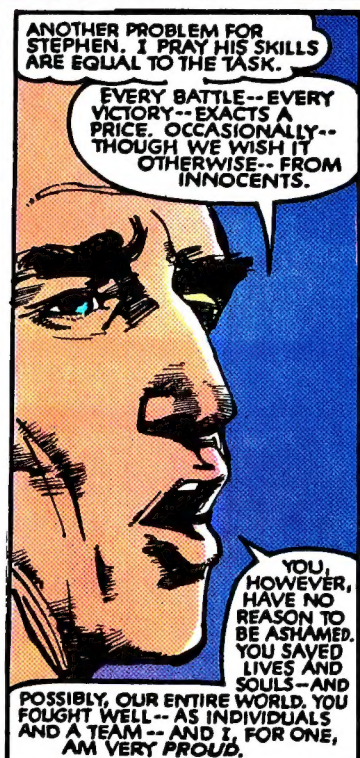
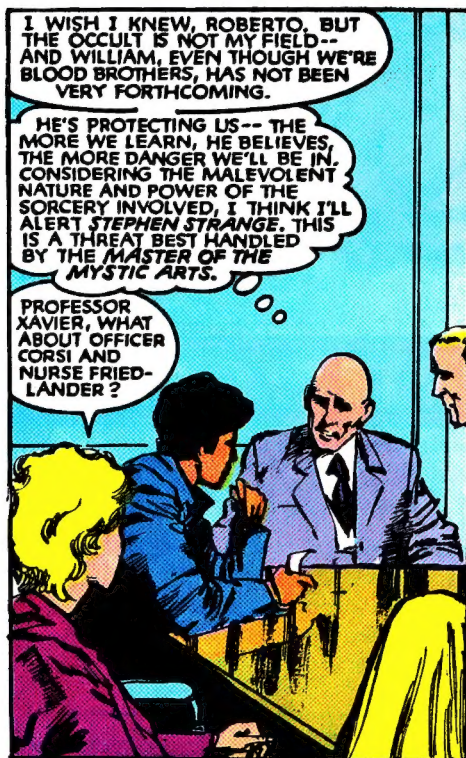
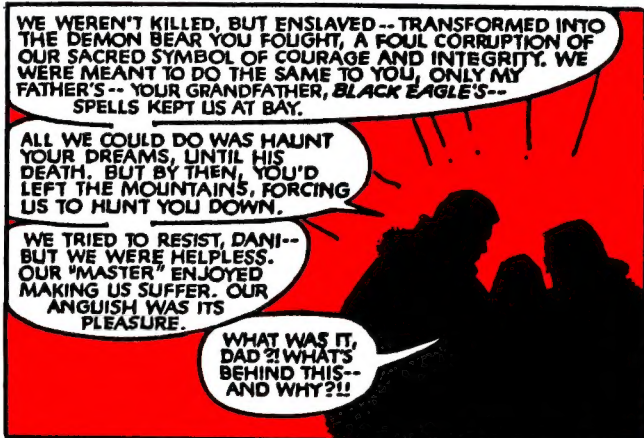
HOW IS SHE?

AS WELL AS CAN BE EXPECTED.

SPEAK FREELY, PLEASE. THESE ARE DANI'S CLASSMATES-- HER BEST FRIENDS-- THEY'VE AS MUCH RIGHT AS WE TO HEAR THE TRUTH.

I WISH I HAD HAPPIER NEWS, MR. LONESTAR. BARRING UNFORESEEN COMPLICATIONS, YOUR DAUGHTER WILL LIVE-- BUT SHE'S TOTALLY PARALYZED.





NEXT ISSUE ENTER **WARLOCK!** *And* **Slumber Party!**

MINUTEMEN

